

# Around the World

with  
Stan Delaplane

It's summer now in Australia. The big, curling green-and-white surf is booming on the beaches at Bondi and Manly and the outback is the last frontier in the temperate zone world. Cheapest air fare is \$705 round trip from the West Coast. You can do thousands of miles of zig-zag island hopping.

I flew Western Air to Acapulco. (To give the spicy ceviche and tequila a vote of confidence for two days.) Then I picked up Quantas for the remainder. Or you can go to Mexico City first. Pick up Quantas there.

From Acapulco you go into Tahiti. From Tahiti to a stopover in New Zealand. From there to Sydney. On the return, stopover in Fiji. Fiji into Honolulu. And then home.

Sydney has become a swinging town. Good restaurants. Fine Australian wine. Great Australian beer.

The money is now on the Australian dollar basis — \$1.12 U.S. buys \$1 Australian. They still use some of the old terms: A \$2 is a "quid." The \$10 equal to the old five pounds is a "spin." And the \$20 — equal to the old 10 pounds—is a "brick."

Upper class Australians deny it, but the taxi drivers still lay off some of the rhyming slang on you. Johnny Hopper is the copper on the Little Jack Horner which is the corner. And if you buy a Simple Simon for the storm-and-strife, you've bought a diamond for your wife.

"We heard that Australia has so many opportunities, we've thought of going there on a trip and, if we like it, staying . . ."

Lots of Americans have moved down Under. There are only 11 million people in the whole country big as the U.S. They've just found enough iron ore to supply the world's steel for I've forgotten how many incredible years.

They've discovered a lot of

offshore oil. And the pretty red cliffs we all admired turn out to be pure bauxite —that's aluminum. Lot of cheap and undeveloped farm land. Climate is tropical at one end, chill at the other. It's much the same as America.

Now — for likely immigrants, Australia will HELP you get there. People who've done it say there's much red tape. Papers and so on. But the chosen get part of their fare paid. You ask the Australian Consul General, 350 Post street, San Francisco.

"We are going to be on a tour in Guatemala. What do we buy and where?"

Best I found is the woven textiles. Table cloths are good. I bought a couple large enough to use as single bed spreads in the children's rooms. They are bright Indian patterns. Silver work is in different designs than Mexico. But the silver is not as good. Prices are best in Guatemala City if you don't get hooked into the shops in or near the big hotels. Shopping is fun in the Indian towns like Chichicastenango. But the prices are a little higher. (It costs something to ship the factory made stuff up to the simple Indian salesman, catch?)

"We would like to take our toy poodle on the ship with us. Do you suppose we could keep her in our stateroom as she is very well behaved?"

I doubt it. All big ships have kennels and you pay a fare. (\$100 from Genoa to New York.) The kennels are usually on the boat deck. You can take the dog out for walks.

However, the kennels I've seen were small with cubicles so cramped I wouldn't put my dog in them. I wouldn't take a dog along unless I could see the kennel first.

How do you get mail overseas?"

American Express has a mail service. You are supposed to be using one of their services — their travelers checks should do it. But in practice, no American Express office has asked me if I was using any of their services. Just looked in the box and gave me my mail.

## Dance Classes Will Be Offered

The Lomita Recreation Center, 24428 Eshelman Ave., is accepting registrations for a jazz dance class for teenagers and adults to be conducted by Ric Brame.

The eight-week course will begin Thursday, and the classes meet each Thursday evening from 7:30 to 9 o'clock. A registration fee of \$5 will be charged.

## We can change our world

Every one of us can. James Spencer, an experienced practitioner of Christian Science, says that we can follow the example of Christ Jesus who through his understanding of God healed those sick in body and those just plain sick of life. Jesus himself said he expected those who followed him to do as he did.

How? You and your friends are invited to hear Mr. Spencer's explanation, which includes some interesting firsthand experiences.

### Christian Science lecture

Monday, November 11 at 8:00 p.m.  
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST  
527 South Broadway  
Redondo Beach, California  
Child care provided at 703 So. Pacific Coast Hwy.

# Conference May Solve Taxpayers Differences

This column of questions and answers on federal tax matters is provided by the office of the U. S. Internal Revenue and is published as a public service to taxpayers. The column answers questions most frequently asked by taxpayers.

When my return was audited, your examiner said I owed \$50 more in tax. I don't agree. Is there any way I can protest this assessment without getting involved with legal fees and so forth?

Yes, you may request a district conference at which you can present your side of the dispute to an impartial third party. It is not necessary to lodge a formal protest to obtain a conference or to engage legal counsel.

Procedures for requesting a conference are outlined in a letter you will receive from IRS setting forth the results of the examination of your return.

I just took a job which requires me to do a lot of traveling. For tax purposes

will I have to keep track of the money I spend on the road?

If you account to your employer for these expenses and your reimbursement does not exceed these expenses you will not have to report them on your tax return. Employees who are not reimbursed for their business travel costs should keep record of what they spend and claim a business expense deduction for them when they file their income tax returns.

For details on record

keeping, send a post card to your district director. Ask for Publication 463, Rules for Deducting Travel, Entertainment and Gift Expenses.

I give my maid money for bus fare. Do I have to pay social security tax on this as well as her wages?

Yes. The Social Security tax applies to the total amount of cash paid to a household employee for wages and transportation. The value of any bus tokens or other non-cash items you provide is not covered by

this tax. However, if cash is given in lieu of these items it constitutes wages.

Tax payments for the July, August, September quarter are due Oct. 31. Any person who has paid \$50 or more cash wages in a quarter to an employe for household services (cleaning, gardening, etc.) must file and pay this tax using Form 942.

My father is going into a rest home. Can we still claim him as a dependent even though he no longer lives with us?

Yes, a close relative does not have to be a member of your household to qualify as a dependent.

If your father is entering a rest home primarily because of the medical care provided there, the entire cost of his maintenance is considered a medical expense. If personal or family reasons prompted the decision for him to enter the home, only those expenses specifically for medical care will be considered deductible medical expenses.

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